

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 NEA-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 /124 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/WE:CKJOHNSON:JKB

APPROVED BY EUR - AAHARTMAN

EUR/RPM - RHFROWICK

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R 032326Z APR 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ROME

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 067462

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: EC 9 PROPOSAL FOR GENERAL DECLARATION ON
MEDITERRANEAN

1. DURING CONVERSATION WITH ITALIAN AMBASSADOR ORTONA
APRIL 3, ASSISTANT SECRETARY HARTMAN REITERATED OUR
UNHAPPINESS ABOUT ITALIAN PROPOSAL ON MEDITERRANEAN AT CSCE,
PARTICULARLY SINCE WE HAD NO OPPORTUNITY TO CONSULT ON
PROPOSAL PRIOR TO ITS LAUNCHING; WE ALSO GATHERED THAT IT
HAD RECEIVED RATHER CURSORY SCRUTINY WITHIN EC 9.

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2. DESPITE A "GENTLEMEN'S AGREEMENT" AT CSCE THAT MEDITERRANEAN QUESTIONS SHOULD BE HANDLED SOLELY THROUGH SCHEDULED APPEARANCES OF ISRAEL AND THE FIVE ARAB LITTORAL STATES, ITALIANS FLOATED PROPOSAL GOING BEYOND THIS APPROACH WITH "GENERAL DECLARATION" IDEA WHICH COULD OPEN UP WHOLE SERIES OF MEDITERRANEAN ISSUES THAT WE WISH TO AVOID.

3. ORTONA SAID HE HAD NO INSTRUCTIONS ON SUBJECT, BUT HAD RECEIVED INDICATIONS THAT ROME WAS PERPLEXED BY THE VIGOR WITH WHICH WE HAD PRESSED OUR VIEWS AGAINST THE ITALIAN INITIATIVE. HARTMAN COMMENTED THAT WE HAD BEEN EMBARRASSED BY THE WAY THE MEDITERRANEAN PROPOSAL HAD EMERGED, SINCE WE HAD PREVIOUSLY CITED EXEMPLARY CHARACTER OF CONSULTATIONS BETWEEN EC 9 AND NON-EC NATO ALLIES AT CSCE.

4. IN RESPONSE TO ORTONA'S QUERY, HARTMAN EXPRESSED DOUBT THAT ANY MODIFICATION IN TEXT OF ITALIAN PROPOSAL WOULD MAKE IT ACCEPTABLE. ORTONA CONCLUDED BY SAYING HE WOULD REPORT OUR CONTINUING CONCERNS ON THIS SUBJECT TO THE FOREIGN MINISTRY PROMPTLY. RUSH

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